those involved in smuggling of Indian currency. Close co-operation is maintained between all the agencies concerned in the preservation and detection of smuggling including that of Indian currency.

Smuggling of Indian Tea to Pakistan

*139. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the smuggling of Indian tea to Pakistan has been constantly on the rise despite various measures taken by Government to check it;

(b) if so, what is the estimated quantity (with value) of the Indian tea being annually smuggled away to Pakistan;

(c) what according to the investigation, if any, are the reasons for failure of the measures taken so far to check such smuggling; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Available reports and seizures made indicate that the smuggling of Indian tea into Pakistan is on a negligible scale. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the quantity of tea that is being smuggled annually into Pakistan.

(d) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country particularly in the vulnerable areas of the coastline and the land borders including land borders with Pakistan has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained with all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling including the Border Security Force which is deployed on the Indo-Pakistan border.

F.C.N.R. deposits in Banks

*140. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of FCNR deposit accounts with the nationalised banks at present and the amount deposited under this head during the years 1986—88;

(b) what is the amount paid as interest on FCNR deposit so far; and

(c) what is the number of Non-Resident Indians/firms who have been provided loans by the nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No. of F.C.N.R. accounts as on 31-12-88 with nationalised banks :—

	No.	Amount	Outstanding balances
US $	102779	£	3777 Million
£ St	41669	£	464 million
DM	56	D.M.	66 million
Yen	85	Y	754 million